CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Official 1/14/04

#4/a S. Cato 7-22-03

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-40.
- After this Response: Claims 1-40.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: none.

Amended claims: 13-18, and 31.

New claims: none.

Claims:

1. **(Original)** A method for controlling access to storage loci in a common configuration data structure, the method comprising:

receiving an attempt to access a first storage locus in the common configuration data structure from a program module;

determining whether to direct such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure with the program module unaware that it is accessing the second locus.

2. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising directing such attempt to at least the second locus, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the second locus.

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3. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising determining whether to direct such attempt to at least a third locus in the common configuration data structure with the program module is unaware that it is accessing the third locus.

4. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising examining a loci-redirection table, wherein the determining is based, at least in part, upon information in the table.

5. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the program module is an application.

6. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 1, wherein:

the first storage locus is reserved for configuration information ("config-info") for a first version of a program module;

the second storage locus is reserved for config-info for a second version of the program module.

7. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the common configuration data structure is a registry.

8. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 1.

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9. **(Original)** A method for controlling access to storage loci in a common configuration data structure, the method comprising:

receiving an attempt to access a first storage locus in the common configuration data structure from a program module;

directing such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the second locus.

10. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 9 further comprising directing such attempt to at least a third locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the third locus.

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11. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 9.

12. **(Original)** A method for directing an access to a storage locus in a common configuration data structure, the method comprising:

intercepting an attempt by a program module to access configuration information ("config-info") of the program module at a first storage locus in the common configuration data structure;

determining whether to redirect such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure with the program module unaware that it is accessing its config-info at the second locus.

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13. **(Currently Amended)** A method as recited in claim ~~11~~ 12, further comprising redirecting such attempt to at least the second locus, the program module being unaware that it is accessing its config-info at the second locus.

14. **(Currently Amended)** A method as recited in claim ~~11~~ 12, further comprising examining a loci-redirection table, wherein the determining is based, at least in part, upon information in the table.

15. **(Currently Amended)** A method as recited in claim ~~11~~ 12, wherein the program module is an application.

16. **(Currently Amended)** A method as recited in claim ~~11~~ 12, wherein:

the first storage locus is reserved for configuration information ("config-info") for a first version of a program module;

the second storage locus is reserved for config-info for a second version of the program module.

17. **(Currently Amended)** A method as recited in claim ~~11~~ 12, wherein the common configuration data structure is a registry.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim ~~11~~ 12.

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19. **(Original)** A method for directing an access to a storage locus in a common configuration data structure, the method comprising:

intercepting an attempt by a program module to access configuration information ("config-info") of the program module at a first storage locus in the common configuration data structure;

redirecting such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing its config-info at the second locus.

20. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 19 further comprising redirecting such attempt to at least a third locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the third locus.

21. **(Original)** A method for replicating data in storage loci of a common configuration data structure of multiple storage loci, the method comprising:

searching multiple storage loci of the common configuration data structure for modified data;

finding modified data in a first storage locus;

copying selected modified data from the first storage locus to at least a second storage locus.

22. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 21 further comprising copying selected modified data from the first storage locus to at least a third storage locus.

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23. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 21, wherein only storage loci listed in a loci-redirection table are searched during the searching.

24. **(Original)** A method comprising:

obtaining a triggering event that signals that a method as recited in claim 21 be initiated;

initiating such method as recited in claim 21.

25. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 24 further comprising sending a triggering event when data in the common configuration data structure is altered.

26. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 21, wherein:

the first storage locus is reserved for configuration information ("config-info") for a first version of a program module;

the second storage locus is reserved for config-info for a second version of the program module.

27. **(Original)** A method as recited in claim 21, wherein the common configuration data structure is a registry.

28. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 21.

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29. **(Original)** A method of access redirection and entry reflection, the method comprising:

controlling access to storage loci in a common configuration data structure of multiple storage loci, the controlling comprising:

- receiving an attempt to access a first storage locus in the common configuration data structure from a program module;
- directing such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the second locus;

replicating modified data in storage loci, the replicating comprising:

- searching multiple storage loci for modified data;
- finding modified data in at least one storage locus;
- copying selected modified data from the storage locus to at least another storage locus.

30. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, perform a method for replicating data in storage loci of a common configuration data structure of multiple storage loci, the method comprising:

searching multiple storage loci of the common configuration data structure for modified data;

finding modified data in a first storage locus;

copying selected data from the first storage locus to at least a second storage locus.

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31. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

a processor;

an access-redirector executable on the processor to:

receive an attempt to access a first storage locus in a common configuration data structure from a program module;

redirect such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the second locus.

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32. **(Original)** An apparatus comprising:

a processor;

a entry-reflector executable on the processor to:

search multiple storage loci of a common configuration data structure for modified data;

find modified data in a first storage locus;

copy selected data from the first storage locus to at least a second storage locus.

33. **(Original)** An operating system comprising:

a common configuration data structure containing storage loci for storing configuration information ("config-info");

a loci-access redirector comprising:

receiver for receiving an attempt to access a first storage locus in the common configuration data structure from a program module;

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director for directing such attempt to at least a second locus in the common configuration data structure, the program module being unaware that it is accessing the second locus.

34. **(Original)** An operating system as recited in claim 33, wherein the program module is an application.

35. **(Original)** An operating system as recited in claim 33, wherein:

the first storage locus is reserved for config-info for a first version of a program module;

the second storage locus is reserved for config-info for a second version of the program module.

36. **(Original)** An operating system as recited in claim 33, wherein the common configuration data structure is a registry.

37. **(Original)** An operating system comprising:

a common configuration data structure containing storage loci for storing configuration information ("config-info");

a loci-entry reflector comprising:

searcher for searching multiple storage loci of the common configuration data structure for modified data and for finding modified data in a first storage locus;

replicator for copying selected data from the first storage locus to at least a second storage locus.

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38. **(Original)** An operating system as recited in claim 37, wherein:

the first storage locus is reserved for config-info for a first version of a program module;

the second storage locus is reserved for config-info for a second version of the program module.

39. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium having a common configuration data structure data structure, comprising:

a first storage locus containing configuration information ("config-info") for a first version of a program module;

a second storage locus containing config-info for a second version of the program module.

40. **(Original)** A computer-readable medium as recited in claim 39 further comprising a third storage locus containing a table that relates the first storage locus to the second storage locus.

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